

Manteca, California  
January 9, 2018

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in regular session in their chambers at 9:00 a.m. Vice-President Kamper called the meeting to order and Director Holbrook led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER ROOS  
ABSENT: KUIL

Also present were General Manager Peter M. Rietkerk, District Counsel Mia S. Brown, Engineering Department Manager Forrest Killingsworth, and Clerk of the Board Betty Garcia.

**Public Comment** - None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Approval of Warrants in the amount of \$575,842.27; A/P Wires in the amount of \$442,033.79; and Payroll dated December 22, 2017 in the amount of \$235,743.97 and Payroll dated January 5, 2018 in the amount of \$189,607.51.
- B. Approval of Consent to SSJID's Entry to Property to read and to maintain Flow Meter for Francisco & Natalie Salvador, APN 229-250-09.
- C. Approval of PG&E encroachment at 20033 S. Jack Tone Road, Ripon, APN 228-070-16.

Director Holbrook questioned item #C and asked exactly where the poles are located, if they are north or south of the District's canal. He stated that the maps are confusing and he wants this information clarified.

A motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Holbrook to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER ROOS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: KUIL

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**Item #1 – Consider approval of request from Dave Boersma to cost share installation of gate on Lateral “T”**

Mr. Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager, informed the Board that the Engineering Department had received a written request from Mr. Dave Boersma who will be replacing a District-owned slide gate that has been leaking which has caused constant and unnecessary pressure on the privately-owned pipeline. District staff has estimated its cost to replace the leaking turnout with new slide gates would cost approximately \$5,104.66. Mr. Boersma wishes install an upgraded gate instead of a slide-gate, and will hire his own contractor

to install new headwall and Waterman C-10 canal gate. Mr. Boersma and asks that the District reimburse him for a portion of the cost of the gate in the amount of \$4,000.00.

The Directors asked if the gates should be upgraded rather than to use the slide gates. Mr. Killingsworth stated that current policy replaces a slide gate with another slide gate rather than to upgrade the gate. Director Holmes suggested that staff review the policy to see if it requires updating.

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Holmes to reimburse Mr. Boersma for the cost the District would have paid in installing a replacement slide gate, in the amount of \$5,104.66, with Mr. Boersma paying the difference for the upgrade. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:           HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER ROOS  
 NOES:           NONE  
 ABSTAIN:       NONE  
 ABSENT:        KUIL

**Item #2 – Discussion and direction to staff regarding proposed cost allocation and budget model for the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, General Manager, stated that staff is seeking review and direction from the Board on the development of a budget and cost allocation among the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) members. Staff is proposing the following budget and cost allocation for the 2018 year.

**2018 Proposed Budget and Cost Allocation**

**Operating Expenses**

Surface Water Consultant	\$65,000
Groundwater Consultant	\$65,000
Legal	\$24,000
ESJGA GSP Development	\$11,664
SSJID Admin	<u>\$57,600</u>
 Total Operating Expenses	 \$223,264

**Proposed Cost Allocation**

	<b>Proposed Allocation</b>	<b>Allocated Costs</b>
SSJID	85%	\$189,774
City of Escalon	5%	\$ 11,163
City of Ripon	10%	<u>\$ 22,326</u>
Total	100%	\$223,264

Mr. Rietkerk stated this initial recommendation for 2018 is based on a review of the proposed SSJID budget for SGMA related activities in 2018, as well as a projection of consulting and legal activities. These activities include reorganization of the SSJGSA to a joint-powers authority, and oversight in the development of a basin-wide groundwater sustainability plan. He said the

proposed cost allocation is based on a proportional share of total groundwater consumption among the SSJGSA member agencies. According to data collected in 2017, SSJID, and the Cities of Ripon and Escalon use approximately 87%, 10%, and 3% of the total SSJGSA annual groundwater use.

Director Roos said the District is already adding groundwater to the ground and yet the District's cost portion is more than he feels we should provide. Director Holbrook stated that water supply is a better way to meet the State's SGMA requirements. He agrees it is best for the District to burden most of the cost so it can have more control over the project and he expressed the importance of getting support from the Cities. He said at the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin Authority meetings ("ESJGBA"), is relying heavily upon a possible grant of \$1.5 million; however, he noted if that grant is not received, each of the participating GSA's costs could go up. Mr. Rietkerk noted if the \$1.5 million grant is received, the cost share for each GSA would be \$11,664; if not, the cost could go up to as much as \$100,000 each. He also said there is a contingency built into the SSJGSA plan that will allow the Cities to do their own plan if they desire. At that time, the SSJGSA could remove themselves from the County level if needed.

Mr. Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager, reminded the Board that the District's first and preferred approach to participating in the SSJGSA was that the District would finance 100% of the project and 85% is reasonable by comparison.

At this time, no action was required. There will be a meeting of the SSJGSA Board of Directors in the week of January 22 in order to discuss these issues and to aid in the development of a final budget proposal with the member agencies. Ultimately, the final budget proposal will be vetted before the SSJGSA Board and must be approved unanimously by the members.

### **Item #3 – Discussion and possible action regarding water supply conditions and winter irrigation activities**

Mr. Rietkerk questioned if the Board thought the District's growers might be interested in a winter irrigation run. He said there are two critical construction projects that may impede on the District's ability to bring water down. Mr. Avila indicated if the roads in the hills are drivable that construction could start as early as tomorrow. Mr. Rietkerk said Bureau confirms that any water diverted during the current timeframe does not count against the District's formula allocation because storage management/flood control releases are occurring to bring New Melones storage down to Army Corps reservoir management requirements.

Mr. Rietkerk reviewed the water supply update with the Board of Directors.

- Precipitation
  - San Joaquin River 5-Station Index is measuring approximately 6.0 inches or 40-percent of average precipitation to date for the 2017-2018 water season.
  - Northern Sierra 8-Station Index indicates approximately 14.1 inches or 67-percent of average precipitation to date for the 2017-2018 water season.
- Snowpack
  - Northern California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately 7-percent of April 1 average and 16-percent of normal to-date.

- Central California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately 12-percent of April 1 average and 28-percent of normal to-date.
- Southern California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately 7-percent of April 1 average and 18-percent of normal to-date.
- Reservoir storage
  - New Melones storage is currently at 1,983,790 AF, or 82-percent of capacity and climbing.
  - Reclamation continues to release water from New Melones above 2E requirements in an attempt to bring New Melones storage down to the required winter maximum of 1.97 MAF.
  - As of December 27, 2017, the Districts had approximately 158,000 acre-feet in the conservation account and as of 1/3/2018, inflow to New Melones topped approximately 163,212 acre-feet. Currently, with inflow and conservation account, the Districts are entitled to a maximum of 225,000 AF per District.

There was no action taken on this item, however, direction was given to staff to continue tracking the water supply.

#### **Item #4 – Communications**

Director Roos

- He stated that last year was a good water season and he is thankful for it.

Director Kamper

- He thanked Director Roos for the comments made at Steve Webb’s retirement dinner.

Director Holbrook

- He said the District has new people in different positions. He looks forward to an exciting new year at the District.

Ed Erisman, Water Treatment Plant Manager:

- He reported the quarterly Operations Committee Meeting with the Cities was held on Monday, January 8. Two of the items discussed were that the City of Lathrop would begin breaking ground on the permanent L2 site soon and the Cities unanimously agreed to a trial run of using SSJID’s calendar year budget instead of requiring the Water Treatment Plant to develop two separate budgets year.
- The State Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been focusing on the reservoirs in California that have been determined to be impaired by mercury. Last year DWR required that the owners of these reservoirs complete a survey to gather information on each reservoir. This year they are requesting that the owners attend a meeting to go over ways that might best be utilized for reducing mercury levels in these reservoirs. He will be attending the meeting on February 1 to stay informed on this topic and what might be required of SSJID in the future.

Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager:

- He reported that Sarah Bloom, Management Accountant, is doing really well; she learns quickly and easily. He said the question is what tasks to turn over to Ms. Bloom and which ones to hold onto. He is turning over the annual budgets to Sarah.
- He needs to concentrate on the Retail Electric Transition Plan and he also has seventeen items to complete for the Strategic Planning Process.
- He agrees with the Board that we should exercise discipline over expenses, especially in view of the possibility that revenues could decline when the current hydropower sales contract expires.
- He plans to beef up monitoring and managing of the budget variances.
- Director Kamper mentioned a Water Supply Update comprehensive report that Mr. Lindley prepared a couple of years ago and asked if he could get an update to the Board.

Troylene Saylor, Public Relations Director

- Almond Blossom Festival kickoff dinner is this Thursday at Spring Creek. She asked the Board who plans to attend so that she could purchase tickets.
- Boys & Girls Club Annual Crab Feed will be held on Saturday, January 20 at the MRPS Hall in Manteca.
- Manteca Rotary annual Omelet and Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 4 at the MRPS Hall.
- Manteca State of the City event will be on Wednesday, February 28 at 7:30 a.m. at the Transit Center. She said she will get tickets for those who plan to attend.
- Annual Employee Dinner will be held on Friday, March 2 or March 9. She asked the Board to “save the date”
- San Joaquin Farm Bureau Annual Wine Tasting Event will be on Thursday, March 15.

Frank Avila, Interim Supervisor for Operations and Water:

- He wished the Board of Directors a Happy New Year.
- Water Department
  - Divisions 1, 2 and 5 have been completed. Crews are working in Division 3; estimated time of completion is January 12. Staff are making miscellaneous repairs in anticipation of a water run.
  - Staff received a call from Susan Winters thanking the District for another great water season in 2017. She appreciates Division Managers for their kindness and for all of their help.
- Maintenance Department
  - Rossier Basin: Staff is continuing to work on this project and preparing to lay the pipeline.
  - WEB-Pipeline: The crew finished the Road crossing; they had to work around a PG&E gas line but all work was done safely with no incidents.
  - MSC: Crews are starting to shotcrete; if weather permits crews will be back to work on January 10.
  - Canal cleaning: Staff is continuing to clean the R ditch.

- Shop Report
  - The new fleet management system is in place and they are starting to enter the data and train the staff so that the system is fully utilized.
  - The new GPS units for the truck have been ordered and will be here in the coming week and this will bring the count to 50 vehicles being tracked.
  - James Ferguson is working on the renewal and staying up with meeting requirements necessary for the California Air Resources Board.
- MDC/Telemetry
  - Staff is continuing to move forward with the installations of the telemetry for the Vaa and Qf Laterals project.
  - Installation of the bases for the new On Farm Meters has begun.
  - Staff is continuing inspection of all laterals, take outs, and flow meters.

Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager:

- He thanked the Board Members and General Manager for the promotion to Engineering Department Manager. He also thanked the rest of District staff for supporting him and his growth with the District.
- Engineering Transitioning – We are “Developing our Groove”
  - Staff is reevaluating some of its processes such as permit routing and project management, and objectives tracking and utilizing Smartsheet software to do this.
  - Purging the Engineering Department of some of its outdated material and furniture.
  - Started discussions with other departments to establish ways to enhance collaboration and communications.
  - Staffing: there are a few vacancies to fill and will be focusing on hiring people with the right character, personalities, and values that ideally compliment the skills needed to fill the positions. The hiring process will strongly emphasize the importance of obtaining people that fit into the developing SSJID culture that we are so proud of.
- McHenry Avenue Bridge Project
  - Culvert boxes on the west side of the road are to be set Thursday and Friday of this week.
  - It is anticipated that culvert replacement at McHenry should be finalized in approximately three weeks, which takes us to the beginning of February.
  - McHenry Spill is operable.
- FCOC Study
  - City of Manteca staff along with District staff will be interviewing three qualified firms on Wednesday, January 17; (West Yost, Carollo, Michael Baker).
- Developments
  - All development projects are tracking appropriately. DeJong Estates, involving Lateral X has 1,300 feet of pipe that has been removed which could possibly affect downstream customers if a winter irrigation was to be scheduled prior to March 1.

Peter Rietkerk, General Manager

News and Notes:

- OID and SSJID are planning a trip to Washington, D.C. from February 26 – March 2 to visit with local congressional representatives, as well as leadership within the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Reclamation. The Districts intend on updating our congressional representatives on the progress made on the Native Fish Plan, after their 2016 support of this program through passage of the WIIN Act. The Districts also intend on discussing water resources issues on the Stanislaus River including New Melones operations, storage possibilities, near and long-term opportunities for multi-benefit water transfers. Many of these concepts should be vetted within Reclamation’s upcoming reconsultation on CVP operations, and state settlement discussions on water. The Districts believe that the timing is adequate to share the Districts perspective and concepts for water resource solutions on the Stanislaus.
- Monthly meeting for the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority is scheduled for January 10.
- The South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency is planning a meeting for the week of January 22. The Board agenda items will include budgeting and cost allocation with the SSJGSA, as well as cost-share approvals supporting a grant application by the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority.

General Counsel Mia S. Brown announced that all of the items listed in Closed Session would be discussed.

**Item #5 – Closed Session**

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
  - 2 cases
  
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
  - Phase 1 hearings on San Joaquin River/Delta Water Quality Control Plan Before State Water Resources Control Board
  - 1 case
  
- c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation  
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
  - 2 cases

Pacific Gas & Electric Company vs. San Joaquin LAFCO  
Superior Court for San Joaquin County  
Case No. 39-2015-00321743-CU-JR-STK

SSJID vs. Pacific Gas & Electric Company, A California Corp., et al.  
Superior Court for San Joaquin County  
Case No. STK-CV-UED-2016-0006638

- d. Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to  
Government Code Section 54956.8  
Property: Water  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Negotiating Parties: SSJID, San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority  
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment
  
- e. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
Government Code Section 54957  
Title: General Manager

Returned from Closed Session at 12:37 p.m. Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1:

**Item #5 C** – A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Roos to authorize the legal counsel to appeal the Trial Court’s decision to dismiss the District’s eminent domain case against PG&E (SSJID v. Pacific Gas & Electric Company, A California Corp., Superior Court for San Joaquin County, Case No. STK-CV-UED-2016-0006638) upon final entry of judgment. The motion passed by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER ROOS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	KUIL

There were no other reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

**Item #6 – ADJOURNMENT**

Director Holbrook left the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Roos to adjourn the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:



AYES: HOLMES KAMPER ROOS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KUIL

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Betty L. Garcia, Clerk of the Board